GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2253
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2002
LOSSES TO NORTH-EASTERN COALFIELDS LIMITED
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Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons of losses to the North-Eastern Coalfields Limited;

(b) whether the Government have taken any steps to turn round these loss making coalfields; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SUSHREE UMA BHARTI)
(a) The main reasons for losses in North Eastern Coalfields (NEC) are as under:-

i) All the underground mines are very old and have become extensive.

ii) Adverse geo-mining conditions like steep gradient, high gassiness making mines very susceptible to spontaneous heating/fire, soft roof and floor conditions.

iii) Large scale mechanisation is not possible due to such adverse geo-mining conditions.

iv) Suitable technology for exploitation of thick seems having such geo-mining conditions with high production and productivity is not available indigenously.

(b&c) Coal India Limited (CIL) has received Rs. 83.79 crore in 2000-01 and 2001-02 for NEC from non- lapsable fund of North East Region for rehabilitation. NEC has submitted a rehabilitation scheme to CIL. Since underground operation is found to be uneconomic, stress is being given on opencast operation.